

2020 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities:

Name: Carly Coburn

District: 16th

Position: 2

1. If you have a personal connection or professional experience with someone who has a developmental disability, would you describe its impact on you?

I have a developmental disability myself, actually. I received late in life ASD and ADHD official diagnosis. I would say that it heavily impacts my life, and my earlier years could have been so much different if my grandparents (who raised me) had accepted the advice of the school when I was in Kindergarten. Having finally learned WHY I am the way I am, I've been able to truly learn and embrace my whole self. I was an advocate for disabilities before learning I'm on the Spectrum and am ADHD, but I can't deny that I became even more fierce in my activism when I learned about being Autistic and ADHD and as my physical disabilities have gotten worse.

2. What are your top three legislative priorities and how would you help people with developmental disabilities in them?

My first goal for Washington if elected would be to completely end the usage of all subminimum wages, subminimum wage laws were created in the 1930s and we need 2020 laws regarding pay for disabled folks. Because of the stalling of the Disability Integration Act, I believe Washington needs to take a lead in the nation and create our own Washington Disability Integration Act which would help get folks out of Eastern and Western hospitals who are supposed to be released. And thirdly I would want to see Washington adopt a single payer healthcare so that ALL of us with developmental disabilities can access the doctors, specialists, care, and caregivers that we need to live either on our own, or in integrated housing.

3. With the current economic crisis, how would you protect services that people with I/DD and their families need?

I believe in a 1% tax on the top 1% of millionaire and billionaire citizens and businesses. With this kind of tax, we should be able to right the economic crisis because people and businesses that haven't been paying ANY taxes for the last several years will finally be paying their fair share.

4. Is there other information you'd like constituents with developmental disabilities and their family and friends to know?

I just want to thank The ARC of Washington sending out these questionnaires and inviting us candidates to take part.